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SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE ALBERTA RACING COMMISSION

JANUARY 1, 1969 - DECEMBER 31, 1969

To: The Honourable Ambrose Holowach,
Provincial Secretary,
Province of Alberta.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

of

THE ALBERTA RACING COMMISSION

JANUARY 1st. 1969 - DECEMBER 31st. 1969

This is the Seventh Annual Report of the Alberta Racing Commission. It provides a review of Thoroughbred and Harness racing and the activities of the Commission for the calendar year 1969.

THOROUGHBRED RACING

1. MEETINGS

There were ten race meetings and one hundred and twenty one days of racing with pari-mutuel wagering in 1969, compared to eleven meetings and one hundred and six days of racing in 1968, as follows (1968 figures in brackets):-

	Meetings		Days of Racing	
Calgary	2	(3)	53	(46)
Edmonton	2	(3)	53	(47)
Lethbridge	1	(1)	9	(8)
High River	2	(1)	2	(1)
Lake McGregor	1	(1)	2	(2)
Millarville	1	(1)	1	(1)
Taber	1	(1)	1	(1)

Complete statistical information is attached hereto in Schedule "A" which forms a part of this Report.

2. LICENSING

The Commission continued its established practice and licensed all Associations which conducted race meetings and all personnel who were directly connected with the running of races during the year covered by this Report. Licenses issued and license fees collected in 1969 were as follows:

Race Meetings:	
Calgary Exhibition & Stampede Ltd., Calgary	$ 21,220.00
Edmonton Exhibition Association Ltd., Edmonton	24,380.00
Southern Alberta Racing Association Ltd., Lethbridge	1,710.00
High River Agricultural Society, High River	100.00
Lake McGregor Memorial Park Association, Lake McGregor	100.00
Millarville Racing & Sports Association, Millarville	50.00
Taber Rodeo Association, Taber	50.00
	$ 47,610.00
Personnel:	
609 Owners	6,090.00
75 Trainers	760.00
109 Owner-Trainers	2,190.00
86 Stable Names	860.00
49 Jockeys & Apprentice Jockeys	247.50
19 Jockeys' Agents	95.00
129 Authorized Agents	129.50
133 Exercise & Pony Boys	134.50
658 Grooms & Stable Employees	671.00
11 Veterinarians	55.00
1 Veterinarian Student	1.00
21 Platers (Blacksmiths)	21.50
	$ 11,255.00

3. RACE OFFICIALS

The Commission continues to be of the opinion that one of the fundamental requirements of racing in the public good is to have race officials of proven ability and integrity responsible for the supervision and conduct of race meetings and race personnel. It is with considerable satisfaction, therefore, that the Commission is able to report that for the sixth year in succession Mr. Clay Puett

of Phoenix, Arizona, represented the Commission as Steward at the major thoroughbred race meetings which came under the jurisdiction of the Commission at Edmonton, Calgary and Lethbridge during the year under review. He had associated with him at Edmonton and Calgary two Stewards and at Lethbridge one Steward representing the Associations licensed to conduct the meetings and in keeping with Commission requirements. Together, the Stewards acted as a panel or Board in their supervision of the conduct of the race meetings and the fulfillment of the Rules of the Commission governing thoroughbred racing. Dr. J. Gordon Anderson, D.V.M., Calgary, once again represented the Commission as Veterinarian at all thoroughbred racing at the three cities previously named. The Commission feels that it is singularly fortunate to have the benefit of the continued services of officials with long experience and proven ability such as Mr. Puett and Dr. Anderson are able to bring to the sport of racing in Alberta. They have a vast knowledge of all phases of thoroughbred racing, including an intimate knowledge of many of the horses, horsemen and other racing personnel. These factors, together with their unquestioned loyalty and devotion to the sport and their many recommendations and suggestions are invaluable to the Commission in its responsibilities under The Alberta Racing Commission Act to maintain and improve the image of racing in this Province, in the public good. In addition, the Commission was represented by Mr. R. Haig who was responsible for the licensing of race personnel and the provision and maintenance of the clerical and statistical needs of the Commission. Mr. Haig performed his duties in an efficient and co-operative manner and contributed a great deal to maintain the good name of the Commission in racing in this Province.

4. STEWARDS' RULINGS

The Stewards promulgated seventy-two Rulings against licensed personnel for infractions or violations of the Rules of the Commission governing thoroughbred racing as follows:

Improper behaviour or conduct	11
Careless and faulty riding	41
Improper medication	4
Improper medication & possession of unauthorized equipment	1
Possession of unauthorized equipment & substances	4
Ineligible claims	3
Ineligible entries	2
Ineligible removal of a horse from the grounds	1
Financial irresponsibility	1
Employment of unlicensed personnel	2
Unlicensed employment	1
False license application information	1

The number of Stewards' Rulings in 1969 showed some increase over the number promulgated in the previous year. A study suggests that the increase resulted from a number of factors including an increase in the number of days of racing and the number of licensed racing personnel, in addition to stricter license control, identification and inspection (referred to in a later section in this Report) and a careful observance by the Stewards of the Rules of the Commission governing thoroughbred racing. All Rulings were reviewed by the Commission. The majority were for infractions or violations of a relatively minor nature and the penalties imposed were in keeping with same and established turf procedures. However, the Commission would like to draw attention to the increase in the number of the violations of its Rules having to do with the treatment and/or medication of horses and the possession of unauthorized substances and equipment, as revealed by the analysis of urine samples and searches made of the facilities and equipment occupied and used by licensed

personnel. The analysis of Stewards' Rulings outlined at the start of this section indicates that there was a total of nine infractions of the Rules in this most important area of horse racing. Four involved "improper medication" and resulted in fines imposed by the Stewards against violating licensees. Four involved the "possession of unauthorized substances and equipment". Two of these resulted in fines, the third in the revocation of the license of the licensee and the fourth and the Ruling involving "improper medication and the possession of unauthorized equipment" resulted in the Stewards suspending the violating licensees sixty days each and referral of their cases to the Commission for whatever action the Commission might deem expedient. It should be pointed out that under the Rules of the Commission governing thoroughbred racing, sixty days is the maximum suspension the Stewards are permitted to impose. The Commission considered the two cases specifically referred to it by the Stewards and heard the evidence adduced by all parties concerned. In one case the Commission found that an Owner-Trainer was in possession of an electrical device (battery), hypodermic syringes and injectible substances, all in contravention of the Rules governing thoroughbred racing. The decision of the Commission was that the license of the Owner-Trainer be revoked and that no further license be granted to him until after September 30th., 1970, or a period of approximately fourteen months from the date the violations of the rules occurred. In the other case, the Commission found that the urine test of a horse entered to race by a Trainer proved positive for the presence of an unauthorized substance and that in addition, the Trainer involved was in possession of an electrical device (battery) and a hypodermic syringe, all contrary to the Rules governing thoroughbred

racing. It was the decision of the Commission that the Trainer be fined the sum of $100.00 and in addition, that his license be revoked and no further license granted to him until September 30th., 1970, a period of approximately fourteen months from the date the violation of the Rules of the Commission occurred.

The foregoing indicates the degree of vigilance which is required by the Commission and its officials concerned with the conduct of racing, if the Rules of the Commission are to be upheld in the public interest. The decisions of the Commission in the two cases referred to and heard by it also indicates the emphasis the Commission places on the observation of its Rules, particularly those Rules which have to do with the possession and/or use of devices and substances which can be used to affect the condition and performance of a horse in a race. The Commission cannot stress too strongly and at the risk of appearing repetitious desires to emphasize once again that it intends to maintain its vigilance, to press with vigour its efforts to control and eliminate all practices which are detrimental to racing and contrary to the public interest and to deal severely with those who violate the Rules of the Commission dealing with same.

5. GENERAL

The statistical information forming part of this Report as Schedule "A" reflects a slight setback in the phenomenal growth which thoroughbred racing has enjoyed at Edmonton and Calgary during the past few years. Total wagering in 1969 at the two cities named was $30,064,984.00 compared to $27,931,017.00 wagered in 1968. While the figures reflect an increase of $2,133,967.00 in the total amount wagered during the year under review, the daily average for the 106

days of racing was $283,632.00 or a decrease of $16,701.00 per day from the average of $300,333.00 per day wagered during the 93 days of racing conducted in 1968. The Associations responsible for the race meetings suggest that the slight decrease was due to some unfavorable weather, a slightly less buoyant economy, the tight money or credit situation which prevailed and the fact that a break was made with established tradition. Two meetings only were held in 1969 at each of the two cities as against three meetings at each during the past few years. The increased number of days of racing in 1969 met with general public acceptance, but it appeared that it was difficult to sustain the same degree of public interest and support for the two extended meetings conducted at each centre as it seemed possible to do at the three shorter meetings conducted at each in past years. The Associations involved have carefully studied the results achieved and indicate that steps are being taken to remove some of those factors which resulted in the reduction in pari-mutuel wagering in 1969 and to attempt to regain the momentum and steady increases which had been achieved during prior years.

It is gratifying, however, to be able to report that the opposite picture was true at Lethbridge where the Southern Alberta Racing Association Ltd. conducted its established fall meeting of thoroughbred racing. Pari-mutuel wagering for the nine days of racing conducted in 1969 amounted to $513,675.00, or $57,075.00 per day compared to a total of $422,787.00 and an average of $52,848.00 per day for the eight days of racing conducted in 1968. Much, if not all the increase can be attributed to the ideal weather conditions which prevailed during the year under review, as opposed to the opposite conditions in the previous year, when the weather for the period of

the race meeting was described as the worst ever experienced in the southern city in the month of September, forcing a reduction to eight days of racing from the nine days which had been approved and scheduled.

Thoroughbred racing in Alberta continues to be administered by associations and personnel who are fully conscious of their responsibility to the wagering public and the horsemen involved. A genuine effort is put forth to maintain and improve the presentation and image of racing. However, the Commission will continue to stress the need for and the importance of improvements to facilities and services in the public interest and if the position of the sport of racing is to be maintained and improved in this province.

HARNESS RACING

6. MEETINGS

There were three race meetings and fifty-nine days of Harness racing conducted during the year 1969 compared to one meeting and forty-two days of racing in 1968 as follows (1968 figures in brackets):-

	Meetings		Days of Racing	
Calgary	1	-	12	--
Edmonton	1	(1)	45	(42)
Westlock	1	-	2	--

Complete statistical information is attached hereto in Schedule "B" which forms a part of this Report.

7. LICENSING

The Rules of the Commission Governing Harness Racing require that all those who conduct race meetings, or who are directly associated with the running of races, shall be licensed by the Commission. Licenses issued and license fees collected in 1969 were as follows:

Race Meetings:	
Calgary Exhibition & Stampede Ltd., Calgary	$ 4,650.00
Edmonton Exhibition Association Ltd., Edmonton	12,150.00
Westlock Racing Association, Westlock	100.00
	$ 16,900.00
Personnel:	
Owners, Trainers, Drivers, Exercise Boys, Grooms, Hot Walkers, Veterinarians, Veterinarian Assistants and Platers - 552 Licenses	$ 761.00

8. RACE OFFICIALS

The officials who served the Commission in past years were re-appointed and represented the Commission at the meetings held at Edmonton and Calgary during the year under review. They were Dr. Roy Saito, D.V.M., Leduc, who acted as Commission Veterinarian and Mr. Don. Stewart, Jnr., Edmonton, Commission Judge. In addition, Mr. Stewart acted as the Commission Judge at Westlock. Mr. Ralph Haig provided for the licensing and clerical requirements of the Commission. The Commission's personnel are well qualified for the duties and responsibilities they must assume and once again they made a most worthwhile contribution to the sport of harness racing and to the fulfillment of the requirements of the Commission in the public good.

9. JUDGES' RULINGS

The Judges issued thirty-three Rulings involving licensees for infractions of the combined Rules of the Commission and the Canadian Trotting Association, under which harness racing is conducted in Alberta. This compared to a total of 19 Rulings issued in 1968. The Rulings for the year under review included one penalty imposed against a licensee for being in an unfit condition to drive and one for the use of abusive language; while thirty-one penalties were imposed for

poor driving and/or impeding or interfering with the progress of other horses or drivers in races. All the Judges' Rulings were reviewed by the Commission and the penalties imposed were in keeping with the Rules under which harness racing is conducted in the province and established racing practices. It is gratifying to be able to report that all Judges' Rulings were for infractions of minor Rules and none involved the violation of those Rules which govern the medication and/or condition of a horse in a race.

10. GENERAL

Harness racing in 1969 was conducted by the Edmonton and Calgary Exhibition Associations at their respective tracks and by the Westlock Racing Association at Westlock. The facilities at Edmonton and Calgary were initially established and continue to provide for substantially more thoroughbred racing than harness racing, but they are easily converted and provide satisfactory facilities for the conduct of the latter form of racing. The year under review witnessed the initial harness race meeting conducted by the newly established Westlock Racing Association at Westlock. The Association comprises a group of dedicated and enthusiastic horse owners and citizens of Westlock and the surrounding territory. It was obvious that considerable time, energy and money had been expended to provide acceptable facilities, services and personnel to provide a race meeting which would meet with the complete approval of this Commission, the Government of Canada and the general, or betting public alike. A substantial degree of success was achieved in all areas mentioned and all responsible are to be commended for their efforts.

The statistical information which forms part of this Report as Schedule "B" indicates that harness racing, too, suffered a slight

setback at Edmonton in 1969 as compared to 1968. Pari-mutuel wagering during the year under review was approximately $4,000.00 per day less than the amount wagered during the previous year. This has been attributed to several factors, including some unfavorable weather conditions, a somewhat less buoyant economy and a strike by employees of the civic transit system during the opening days of the meeting. True comparisons at Calgary are impossible as the 1969 meeting at that centre was the first after a lapse of several years and the first under the sponsorship and direction of the Calgary Exhibition & Stampede Ltd. Unfortunately, the meeting was plagued by adverse weather conditions. A meeting of 15 days of racing had originally been planned and approved. However, the weather conditions forced cancellation of three days of racing and only twelve days were completed. It has been indicated that the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Ltd. were not too disappointed or discouraged by the results achieved and that they plan to include harness racing amongst their future racing activities. Comments reaching the Commission indicate that the general public were quite well satisfied with the calibre of racing offered and the facilities and services provided by the sponsoring Association.

The Commission continues to be concerned about the availability of a satisfactory number of suitable horses for extended harness race meetings of the nature and extent of those now being conducted and developed at the two major centres and elsewhere throughout the province. However, some improvement was in evidence in 1969 in this important area of the sport. The horses entered to race were relatively satisfactory and showed some improvement over previous years, both as to numbers and suitability. The Commission will continue its efforts to maintain and improve the quality of harness racing in this

province, in the public good. In so doing, the Commission knows that it has the full support of all those who are involved, or interested in the breeding, owning, maintenance, training and driving of harness horses and of the conduct of harness race meetings. An understanding and appreciation of the need for more and better horses, resulting in improved public support and increased purses should produce the goals which all are seeking being achieved or becoming a reality. Harness racing is a sport in which a growing segment of the public is taking a keen interest and they demand and have a right to expect the best that can be provided.

GENERAL

11. REVENUE & EXPENDITURE

The records of the Commission have been audited and reviewed by the Provincial Auditor and the following is the audited statement of Revenue and Expenditure of the Commission for the twelve months ended December 31st., 1969, together with comparative figures for the year ended December 31st., 1968:

	1969	1968
REVENUE:		
Thoroughbred Racing:		
Race Meeting Assessments	47,610.00	38,460.00
Personnel Licenses	11,255.00	9,805.00
Fines	1,835.00	1,595.00
	$ 60,700.00	49,860.00
Harness Racing:		
Race Meeting Assessments	16,900.00	8,400.00
Personnel Licenses	761.00	523.00
	17,661.00	8,923.00
Miscellaneous	375.75	463.09
	$ 78,736.75	59,246.09
EXPENDITURE:		
Veterinarians' Fees	17,505.00	14,185.00
Stewards' Fees & Expenses	16,225.39	14,409.29
Commissioners' Salaries	11,000.00	10,500.00
Office Salaries	6,000.00	6,032.00
Security Officers' Wages	4,425.00	--
Judge' Fees	4,325.00	2,500.00
Travelling	3,755.13	3,579.92
Licensee Identification Equipment & Supplies	3,361.25	--
Printing, Stationery & Office Supplies	1,579.31	1,747.82
Tattooing	1,527.09	2,124.48
Office Rent	1,040.00	980.00
Telegraph, Telephone & Postage	933.22	779.21
Insurance	878.64	653.06
Legal Fees	830.09	450.00
Membership Fees	757.38	758.25
Hearings & Appeals	624.04	202.65
Canada Pension Plan Contributions	596.87	457.09
Miscellaneous	98.32	77.80
	$ 75,461.73	59,436.57
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure	$ 3,275.02	(180.88)

SURPLUS:	1969	1968
Surplus as at January 1st.	9,810.12	11,206.10
Add: Excess of Revenue over Expenditure	3,275.02	(189.88)
	$ 13,085.14	11,016.22
Deduct: Remitted to Provincial Treasurer	--	1,206.10
Surplus as at December 31st.	$ 13,085.14	9,810.12
Represented by:		
Cash in Bank	13,085.14	4,810.12
Short Term Investments	--	5,000.00
	$ 13,085.14	9,810.12

By authority granted by O.C.1012-66, the Commission is permitted to retain an accumulated surplus of $10,000.00 at all times as an appropriate reserve fund to be maintained for unforeseen or unpredictable contingencies or emergencies. Any excess Revenue over Expenditure in any year must be remitted to the Provincial Treasurer. Should the activities of the Commission in any year result in a deficit or excess of Expenditure over Revenue, then the Commission is permitted to budget in the succeeding year in a manner that will produce Revenue to provide for the current year's estimated Expenditure in addition to the deficit of the previous year. In this way, the Commission is able to maintain the accumulated surplus of $10,000.00 as previously referred to. In accordance with this authority, the Commission will remit to the Provincial Treasurer the sum of $3,085.14 being the excess of Revenue over Expenditure in the amount of $3,275.02 for the year under review, less the deficit of $189.88 which occurred in the year ended December 31st. 1968

It will be noted in the statement of Revenue and Expenditure that the pattern of Revenue items followed that of past years. Once again, the largest portion of the Revenue of the Commission was derived from Associations and others who conducted race meetings, with lesser amounts earned from personnel license fees and fines levied against

licensees for infractions or violations of the Rules of the Commission governing racing. Also, the method of calculating race meeting assessments paid by those conducting race meetings remained the same. The assessment or fee for a race meeting is in an amount sufficient to reimburse the Commission for the cost of providing officials for the meeting, plus an amount equal to the pro-rata portion of the balance of the estimated cost of maintaining the office and services of the Commission, after estimated Revenue earned from personnel license fees, fines and miscellaneous revenue for the current year has been deducted. The latter amount is based on the proportion that the pari mutuel wagering handled by each Association or other person who conducted a race meeting in the previous year bears to the estimated nett total cost of maintaining the office and services of the Commission in the current year. In the case of a new race meeting, such as the harness race meeting conducted at Calgary in 1969, and where prior pari mutuel wagering figures are not available, the amount of such pari mutuel wagering is estimated. The Commission feels that this formula is fair to all concerned. It also feels that the amount of race meeting fees or assessments and license fees being paid by those who conduct race meetings, or who engage in racing, is fair and reasonable and that as far as can be determined at this time, the amounts should not change materially in the immediate future. With the exception of the Expenditure items - "Security Officers' Wages" and "Licensee Identification Equipment & Supplies", which items are referred to in the next Section (No. 12) of this Report - all items of Revenue and Expenditure are in line for the two years reviewed, having in mind the fact that there were 180 days of racing conducted in Alberta in 1969 compared to 148 days in 1968.

12. RACE TRACK SECURITY

Mention was made in the previous Section of this Report to the items of Expenditure which appear in the audited statement of Revenue and Expenditure under the headings of "Security Officers' Wages" and "Licensee Identification Equipment & Supplies". These two items are in amounts of $4,425.00 and $3,361.25 respectively and total $7,786.25. By way of explanation the Commission would like to report that prior to the opening of the 1969 racing season, the Edmonton and Calgary Exhibition Associations advised the Commission that it was their desire to look into ways and means whereby a better system might be devised of identifying those persons who were eligible for access to the stable and other restricted areas of a race track during the progress of a meeting. Should it be possible to devise a system which would eliminate or restrict ineligible persons from such areas, then it should follow that a greater degree of control, more efficient security and better observance of the Rules of the Commission governing a race meeting and the requirements of the race meeting operator would be the result. It should be pointed out that in the conduct of a race meeting only Commission licensees and certain association officials are permitted to have access to the stable and other restricted areas of a race track during the progress of a meeting. With the foregoing in mind, it was agreed that the best method of securing the desired results would be for the Commission to photograph every licensee and to have the photograph become a part of the license card. It was also agreed that it would be desirable to employ a Security Officer whose duties would be to maintain a check on those persons in the stable and restricted areas of a race track to see that they were properly licensed and identified. This would be

in addition to the security staff provided by the operating Associations who would continue their check and control of all persons frequenting all areas of a race track during the progress of a meeting. As the Commission continues to feel that the matter of security at race tracks is one of its prime responsibilities in the public interest, and as it felt that the proposed new measures would provide greater security, the Commission agreed to provide the service. It was further agreed that those availing themselves of the service would reimburse the Commission for the costs involved. Therefore, the two expenditure items referred to cover the cost of providing the new and added license identification and security service provided by the Commission for the Edmonton and Calgary Exhibitions and for all thoroughbred and harness racing conducted by the two Associations during the year under review. The expenditure was included in the race meeting assessments paid by the two Associations involved. The Commission feels that the added security provided by the licensee identification and inspection service was worthwhile. It made possible a tighter control in restricted areas of race tracks and enabled officials involved to do a better job of enforcing the Rules of the Commission and the requirements of those conducting the race meetings. The Associations involved have indicated that they are satisfied with the results achieved and feel that the costs involved were justified.

13. COMMUNITY RACE MEETINGS

The Commission licensed community organizations at High River, Lake McGregor, Millarville and Taber to conduct race meetings with pari mutuel wagering during the year under review. These meetings were basically thoroughbred meetings, although one or two did include races for quarter horses. It should be pointed out at this time that

the number of and interest in quarter horses in Alberta is on the increase and it is the view of the Commission that as the years progress, greater provision will have to be made for quarter horse races to be conducted at approved race meetings in the province.

Mr. H. E. Patten, Calgary, once again represented the Commission as Steward at all community meetings. He was responsible to see that the Rules and other requirements of the Commission were observed and was available to give advice and assistance to those responsible for the conduct of the meetings in question. In his report, Mr. Patten indicated that his presence at the meetings was appreciated and that the requirements of the Commission were understood and that a sincere effort was made to see that such requirements were observed. The Commission would like to suggest once again that indications are that the demand for race meetings with pari-mutuel wagering to be conducted at the smaller centres throughout the province will increase as the years go by. Meetings of this nature are most popular community activities, they command considerable local public approval and support and make a worthwhile contribution to the development of horse racing in this province.

14. CRIMINAL CODE OF CANADA

During the year under review, certain amendments were made to those Sections of the Criminal Code of Canada which deal with horse racing with pari mutuel wagering. Principally, the amendments liberalize the requirements of the Code having to do with the provision and use of charters by which a person or association is permitted to conduct a race meeting with pari mutuel wagering and provide for a sliding scale of maximum percentages that may be deducted from the total amount of the pool or pari-mutuel wagering of each race of such a meeting. The full impact of the amendments cannot be assessed

completely at this time, as new Regulations under the amended Code are now being drafted and will not be known until possibly sometime early in the year 1970. However, it is the view of the Commission that the amendments are equitable and practical and in keeping with current horse racing requirements. It is also the view of the Commission that the amendments do not in any way restrict, limit or impede the authority and responsibility of the Commission under the Alberta Racing Commission Act and they have the full approval of the Commission.

15. OFF-TRACK BETTING

During the year 1966, two individuals in Ontario undertook to place bets for patrons through the pari-mutuel machines on races being run in that province. They made a small charge, or assessed a small fee for the service of transporting the money and making the bets. They were charged in the courts with engaging in a business or occupation contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada. Initially, they were convicted on the charges, but subsequently the Courts reversed the decision. The case actually attracted very little attention until in the following year another person opened a betting shop in the same province and identified his firm as "Parimutuel Brokers". He claimed he was offering a messenger betting service, whereby for a service fee he would undertake to transport customers' money to a race track in Ontario where racing was in progress and wager it through the pari mutuel system, as their agent. His service charge for the service is reported to have been about ten per cent of the amount of the wager, with a minimum charge of fifty cents. The activities of this person received a great deal of publicity. In addition, local and provincial authorities showed immediate interest and within

a few days of its opening, the business closed and a charge of bookmaking was laid against the proprietor and an employee under the Criminal Code. The case was first dismissed, but the decision was appealed to the Court of Appeals of the Province of Ontario which dismissed the appeal, concurring in the conclusions of the original court. The matter of off-track betting then became a lively topic and within a very short period of time many off-track betting shops were opened in Ontario. Interest began to grow in other provinces, as well. The next development was that the Attorney General of Ontario applied to the Supreme Court of Canada for leave to appeal the Ontario Court's decision, but this august body announced its refusal to hear an appeal. A tremendous boom in betting shop activities followed, with approximately one hundred of the shops operating in the Toronto area alone. One opened in British Columbia, but closed within a matter of a day or so. Alberta saw a few of the shops operating at Edmonton and Calgary. Meanwhile the Federal and Provincial authorities had been reviewing the situation to consider the implications of the development in such areas as the control of illegal gambling. The Attorneys General of some of the Provinces met with the Federal Minister of Justice and sought an amendment to the Criminal Code which would prohibit betting shops. The argument appeared to be that messenger service betting could easily be adaptable as an effective screen for unlawful bookmaking and therefore a magnet for organized crime. Ultimately, the Attorneys General for all the provinces were consulted for their views and it is understood that all recommended immediate prohibition by means of an amendment to the Code. The Federal Minister of Justice finally presented legislation to prohibit the placing of a bet by one person on behalf of

another person for a consideration. In the discussions which ensued it was suggested that the proposed bill should be amended to permit the provinces to license off-track betting activities should they so desire. Many arguments and submissions were heard and presented to the House's Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, both for and against off-track betting. Finally and after receiving assurances that the Minister of Justice and the Provincial Attorneys General would have the opportunity to participate in meaningful consultations on the whole question, the legislation was approved by the Committee. The legislation was proclaimed on June 27th., 1969, at which time off-track messenger betting services became illegal enterprises. To the best knowledge of the Commission, those messenger service shops which had operated in Alberta closed their doors on a voluntary basis and none was operating in the province at the close of the year 1969.

16. RACE ASSOCIATIONS AND RACE MEETINGS

Members of the Commission continued their visits to all race meetings to observe the conduct of racing. Their attendance at the meetings included inspections of the facilities, equipment, personnel and services being provided and used by race track owners and operators. As a result of these inspections and recommendations made by its officials, the Commission continues to make recommendations, suggestions and requests for changes, additions and improvements which are considered to be either desirable or essential in the public good. It is pleased, once again, to be able to report that in every instance, the representations it has made have met with favourable response and requests made have either been fulfilled, or are in the process of fulfillment. Members of the Commission are also available throughout

the year for consultation with race Association officials and all others, whether directly connected with, or otherwise interested in some phase of racing in Alberta. The place of the Commission is now firmly established and the responsibilities it has to fulfill under The Alberta Racing Commission Act and in the public interest are better understood and appreciated.

17. DENNIS K. YORATH

It is with regret that it is necessary to report the resignation of D. K. Yorath as Chairman of the Commission, which office Mr. Yorath had held from the date of the inception of the Commission following the passing of The Alberta Racing Commission Act on April 5th., 1962. Formal recognition of his resignation was given in Order in Council No. 1277-69, dated July 10th., 1969. Mr. Yorath had the responsibility of guiding the Commission through its inception until the time of his resignation. He performed his duties and assumed the responsibilities of his office in a dedicated and efficient manner and it was largely through his efforts that the place of the Commission in the racing community became known and understood. His wise counsel as Chairman of the Commission will be sorely missed. The Order in Council which provided for the termination of the appointment of Mr. Yorath as Chairman and member of the Commission also provided for the appointment of Mr. Leonard P. Bromham as Chairman, to succeed Mr. Yorath and the appointment of Mr. Edward Bloom, Edmonton, as a member of the Commission. Mr. Bromham was a member and the Secretary of the Commission from the date of its inception. Mr. Bloom has come to the Commission with a high degree of knowledge of racing from the standpoint of the general or wagering public. This, together with his past business and administrative knowledge and

experience will make him a valuable addition to the Commission in its administration of The Alberta Racing Commission Act, in the public interest. Mr. C. W. Adams, Calgary, continues to be Vice-Chairman and a member of the Commission in which capacity he has acted since it came into being.

18. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Commission wishes to acknowledge the co-operation and assistance it received throughout the year from the following:

Mr. Lou Davies, General Manager and staff Western Canada Racing Association Ltd.
Mr. A. J. Anderson, General Manager, Mr. A. A. Grillo, General Manager, Harness Racing Division and staff Edmonton Exhibition Association Ltd.
Mr. I. W. Parsons, General Manager and staff Calgary Exhibition & Stampede Ltd.
Mr. Lee S. Williams, President and Mr. N. L. Chapman, General Manager, Southern Alberta Racing Association Limited
Lord Roderick Gordon, President, Alberta Thoroughbred Association
Mr. J. W. Wright, President, Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, Canadian Prairie Division
Mr. Emil Roy, Secretary-Manager, Jockeys' Benefit Association of Canada
Mr. H. A. Dickenson, President, Mr. Gordon M. Findlay, Secretary, and Mr. J. C. LeLacheur, Chairman, District #12, Canadian Trotting Association
Dr. J. M. Dugan, D.V.M., President, Alberta Standardbred Horse Association
Mr. S. B. Pratt, Chief, Race Track Supervision, Canada Department of Agriculture

Respectfully submitted.

Chairman

Dated at the City of Edmonton,

Province of Alberta,

this Twenty-Sixth day of January, 1970.

Vice-Chairman

Commissioner

PARI - MUTUEL STATISTICS SCHEDULE "A"

THOROUGHBRED RACING - 1969 & 1968

	Racing Days 1969	Racing Days 1968	No. of Races 1969	No. of Races 1968	Attendance 1969	Attendance 1968	Nett Gate Receipts 1969	Nett Gate Receipts 1968
CALGARY	53	46	424	368	186,466	174,369	$162,111.50	$133,335.50
EDMONTON	53	47	424	376	243,248	241,625	221,871.75	216,088.50
LETHBRIDGE	9	8	73	59	10,355	9,344	6,615.00	5,516.00
HIGH RIVER	2	1	15	8	1,877	788	1,501.00	788.00
LAKE MCGREGOR	2	2	16	16	2,714	2,599	3,976.50	3,898.50
MILLARVILLE	1	1	7	8	4,500	9,628	2,283.50	4,814.00
TABER	1	1	8	8	550	850	375.00	553.00
	121	106	967	843	449,710	439,203	$398,734.25	$364,993.50

	Amount Wagered 1969	Amount Wagered 1968	Pari - Mutuel Percentages & Breaks 1969	Pari - Mutuel Percentages & Breaks 1968
CALGARY	$12,937,062.00	$11,449,835.00	$1,235,114.25	$1,102,291.45
EDMONTON	17,127,922.00	16,481,182.00	1,638,116.03	1,578,233.94
LETHBRIDGE	513,675.00	422,787.00	65,094.14	40,733.23
HIGH RIVER	8,332.00	12,946.00	905.04	1,303.37
LAKE MCGREGOR	15,378.00	16,594.00	1,553.31	1,637.93
MILLARVILLE	16,683.00	35,139.00	2,168.41	3,444.14
TABER	9,188.00	10,616.00	1,202.46	1,071.02
	$30,628,240.00	$28,429,099.00	$2,944,154.24	$2,728,715.08

	Alberta Government Tax 1969	Alberta Government Tax 1968	Gross Prize Money 1969	Gross Prize Money 1968
CALGARY	$ 646,853.10	$ 572,491.75	$ 722,805.00	$ 578,005.00
EDMONTON	856,396.10	824,059.10	778,310.00	644,800.00
LETHBRIDGE	25,683.75	21,139.35	38,950.00	25,750.00
HIGH RIVER	416.60	647.30	2,595.00	1,405.00
LAKE MCGREGOR	768.90	829.70	1,805.00	1,545.00
MILLARVILLE	834.15	1,756.95	1,887.00	2,062.00
TABER	459.40	530.80	1,350.00	1,170.00
	$1,531,412.00	$1,421,454.95	$1,547,702.00	$1,254,737.00

Source - Chief, Race Track Supervision, Canada Department of Agriculture.

PARI - MUTUEL STATISTICS

SCHEDULE "B"

HARNESS RACING - 1969 & 1968

	Racing Days		No. of Races		Attendance		Nett Gate Receipts	
	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968
CALGARY	12	--	120	---	20,080	---	$11,573.00	$ ---
EDMONTON	45	42	450	415	117,087	114,853	81,823.00	77,542.00
WESTLOCK	2	--	14	---	1,650	---	1,362.75	---
	59	42	584	415	138,817	114,853	$94,758.75	$77,542.00

	Amount Wagered		Pari - Mutuel Percentages & Breaks	
	1969	1968	1969	1968
CALGARY	$ 727,729.00	$ ----	$ 70,267.73	$ ---
EDMONTON	5,914,315.00	5,694,236.00	568,128.63	545,804.87
WESTLOCK	22,304.00	----	2,142.48	---
	$6,664,348.00	$5,694,236.00	$640,538.74	$545,804.87

	Alberta Government Tax		Gross Prize Money	
	1969	1968	1969	1968
CALGARY	$ 36,386.45	$ ---	$ 48,625.00	$ ---
EDMONTON	295,715.75	284,711.80	312,498.00	230,804.00
WESTLOCK	1,115.20	---	2,420.00	---
	$333,217.40	$284,711.80	$363,543.00	$230,804.00

Source - Chief, Race Track Supervision, Canada Department of Agriculture